

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

The rejection of Claims 1 and 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Battie in view of Courtin is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 recites, inter alia, that the length (B) of the thick section of the pawls is greater than $\frac{1}{2}$ the difference (A) between the inner diameter of the inner wall and the outer diameter of the stud. See Fig. 2 of Applicant's drawings and the paragraph bridging pages 5-6 of Applicant's specification. No such teaching is found in Battie or the proposed combination of Battie and Courtin.

With regard to Claim 4, each of the pawls of Battie has a configuration that is totally different from the configuration of the catch 6 of Courtin, which does not have a centerline extending in a direction substantially perpendicular to the axis of the bore before insertion of the stud in the bore, as required by Claim 4.

There is no suggestion in the prior art for modifying a pawl of Battie in view of the quite different configuration of the catch of Courtin, in any way that would effectively work with a stud. Unlike the pawl of Battie and the pawl of Applicant's invention, the position of the catch 6 of Courtin varies hardly at all when the stud is inserted in the bore. Courtin would not teach one of ordinary skill in the art how to place the engaging section recited in Claim 4 on a pawl of Battie for effective use with a stud.

Regarding dependent Claim 6, there is certainly no suggestion whatsoever in the combination of Battie and Courtin of the pair of engaging sections and the pair of grooves recited in Claim 6.

The rejection of Claims 2, 3, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Battie in view of Courtin and further in view of Kraus is respectfully traversed. The arcuate shape of Kraus does not compensate for the deficiencies of Battie and Courtin in the rejection of base Claims 1 and 6.

The rejection of Claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Battie in view of Courtin and Kraus and further in view of Miura is also respectfully traversed. Claim 8 incorporates the subject matter of Claims 4-7 which clearly distinguishes patentably from the prior art upon which those claims were rejected. Moreover, Claim 8 has been amended to recite that the hinge positions of the pawls at opposite sides of the bore are staggered axially of the bore, unlike anything taught by Miura.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now presented should be allowed, and that this application should be passed to issue.

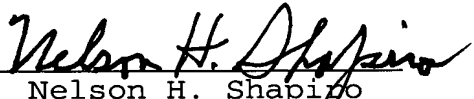
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and

has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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